

Platform Biocatalysis and Biosynthesis

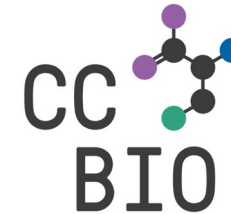
biotechnet
switzerland

History

Platform Biocatalysis and Biosynthesis

Dec. 2015

biotechnet
switzerland



Jan. 2016

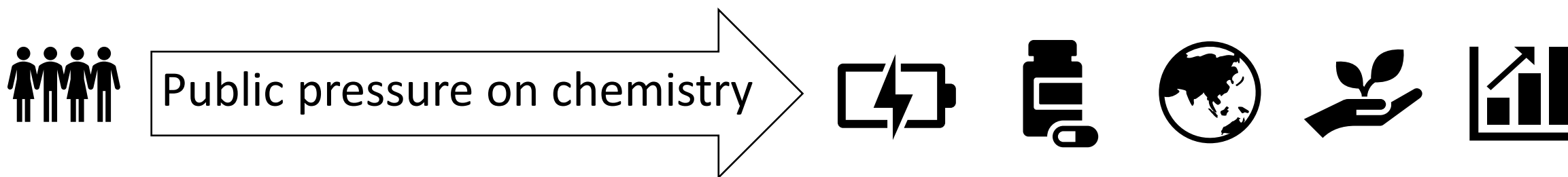
ZHAW – Wädenswil
Competence Center for Biocatalysis (CCBIO)



Prof. Dr. Rebecca Buller

Biocatalysis and Biosynthesis

“uses enzymes to catalyze reactions in synthetic chemistry”



Enzyme

high selectivity



ambient conditions

no rare metals

no protection groups

less organic solvents

use of non-fossil, renewable (waste) starting material

Bioinformatics
Machine learning
Molecular biology
Gene synthesis

enzymes can
be modified to
fit special
applications

Chemist's Toolbox



Biocatalysis and Biosynthesis

Applications

- production of pharmaceutical blockbuster molecules/ drug discovery
- fine chemicals (aroma, fragrances, nutraceuticals) and
- commodity chemicals from sustainable resources

Future Applications

- novel compounds

Mission

- *Promote Biocatalysis and Biosynthesis* as a complementary method to chemical synthesis
- *Bundle relevant research competences* in Switzerland
- Help *bridge the gap* academic laboratories - the production plant
- Develop a comprehensive *biocatalytic toolbox*
 - enzyme libraries/ biocatalytic methods
- *Train* scientists to work in this interdisciplinary environment



Lowering barrier of acceptance for using biocatalysis and biosynthesis

Platform Members



Prof. Dr. Regine Eibl
Cell Culture Technology



Prof. Dr. Dieter Eibl
Biotechnology



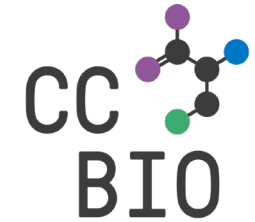
Dr. Lukas Neutsch
Bioprocess Technology



Dr. Christin Peters
Biosystems Technology



Prof. Dr. Caspar Demuth
Analytical Technology



Prof. Dr. Martin Sievers
Micro- & Molecular Biology



Dr. Peter Riedlberger
Chemical Engineering



Prof. Dr. Achim Ecker
Industrial Chemistry



Prof. Dr. Rainer Riedl
Active Substance Research



Prof. Dr. Rebecca Buller
Biocatalysis

Biocatalysis Group at ZHAW

Head: Prof. Dr. Rebecca
Buller



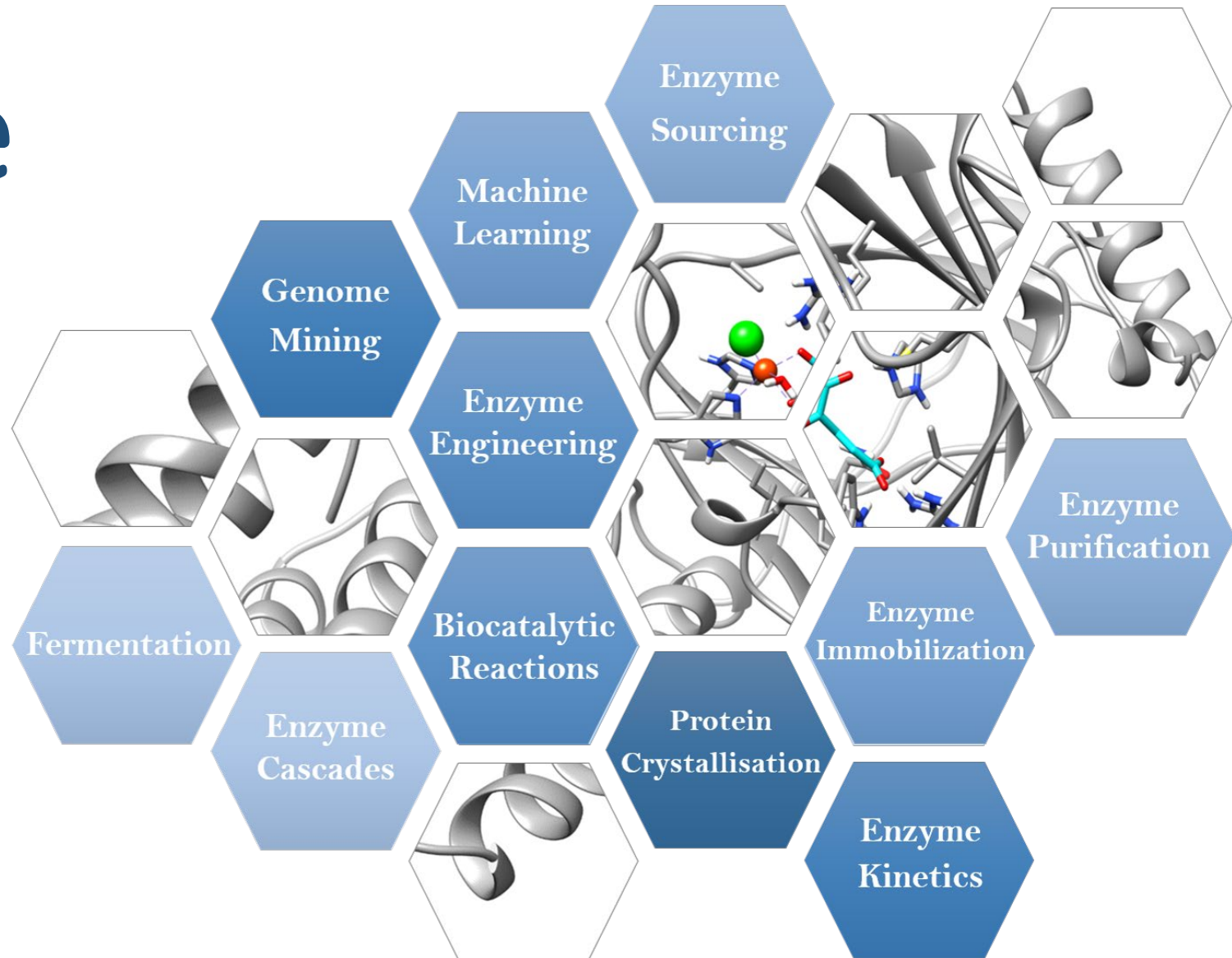
Research scientists

PhD students

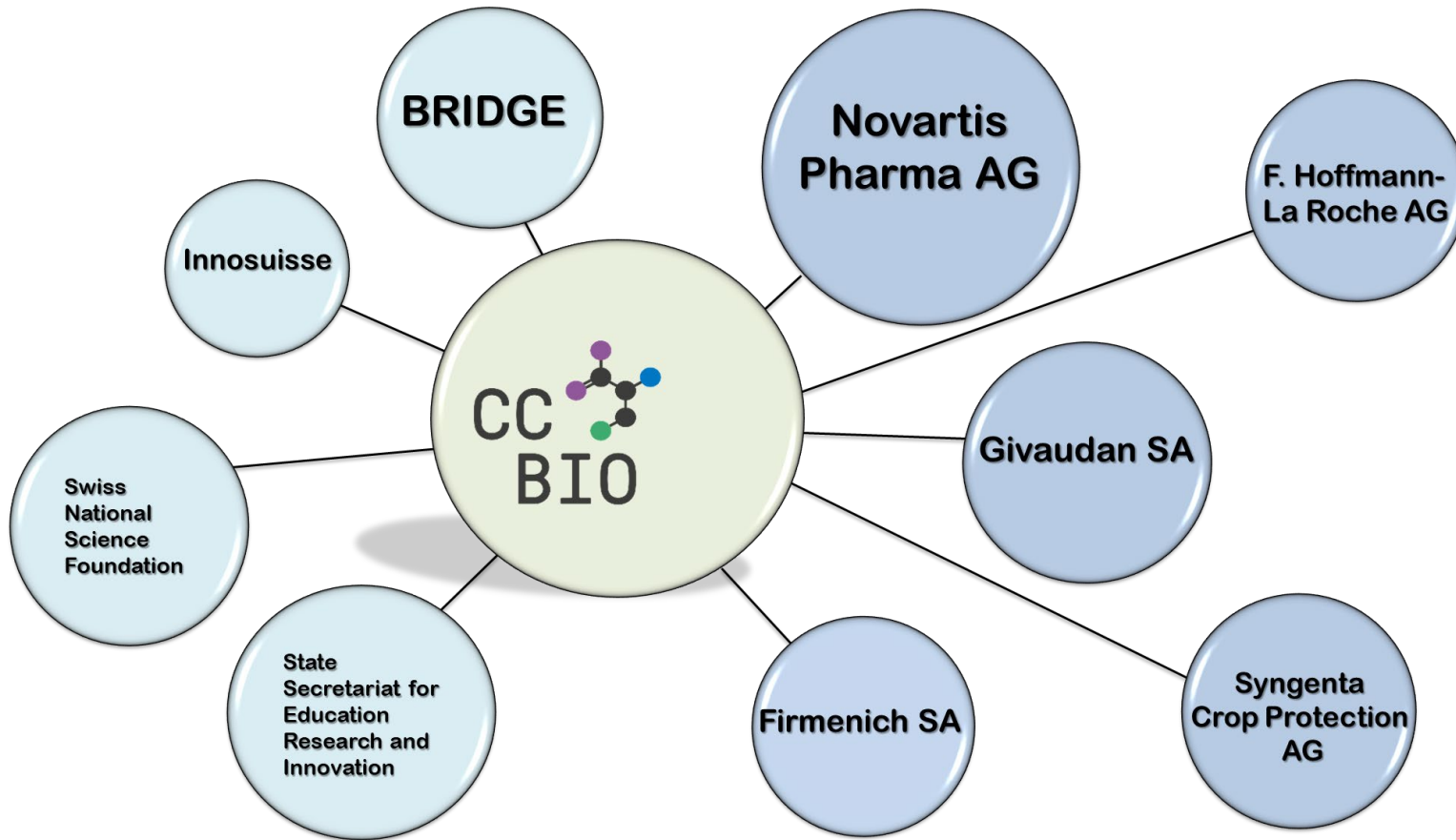
Master and Bachelor students

Plattform Biocatalysis and Biosynthesis

Expertise



Funding and Collaborations

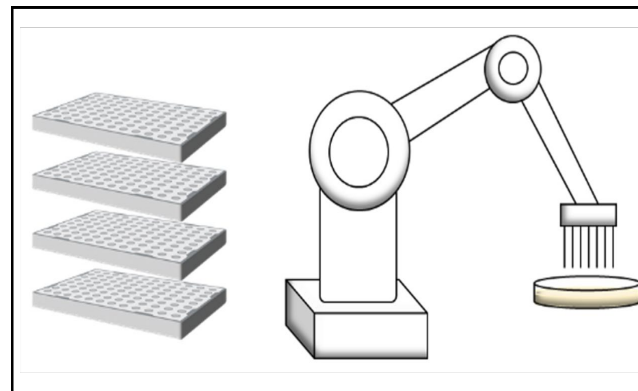
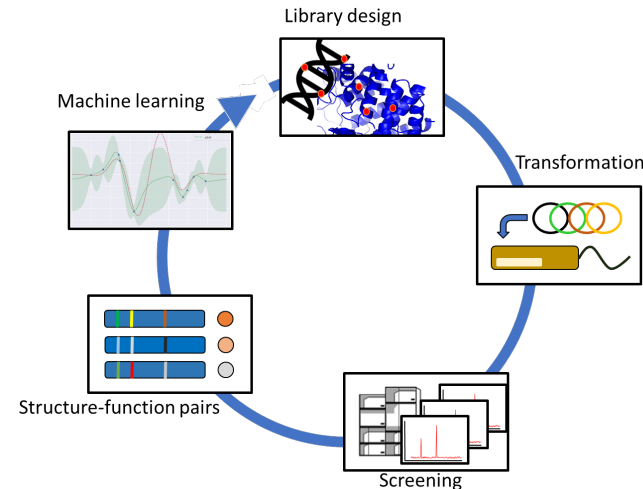


- Research projects
- Industrial Collaborations

Our Research Projects

Enzyme Families

- α -Ketoglutarate-dependent Oxygenases
- Halogenases
- Squalene-Hopene Cyclases
- Ene-Reductases
- Microbial Epimerases
- PETase

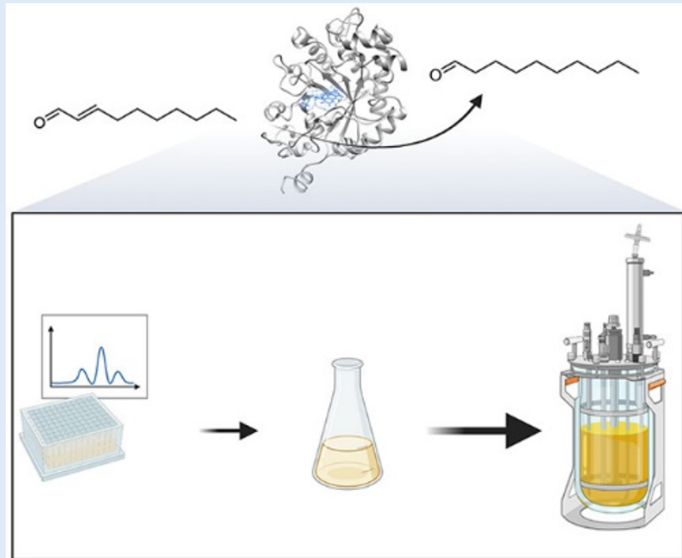
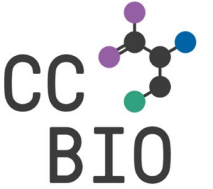


Technologies

- Algorithm-assisted enzyme engineering
- Automation-assisted enzyme engineering

2022 Publication

with platform member **Christin Peters**
(ZHAW) and industrial partner **Firmenich**



Development of an Ene Reductase-Based Biocatalytic Process for the Production of Flavor Compounds

Org. Process Res. Dev, 2022.

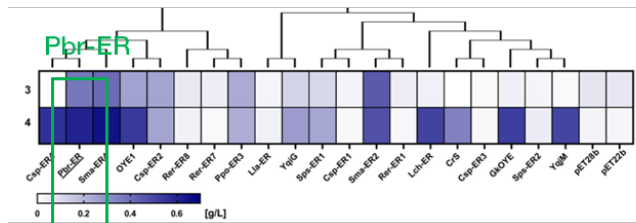
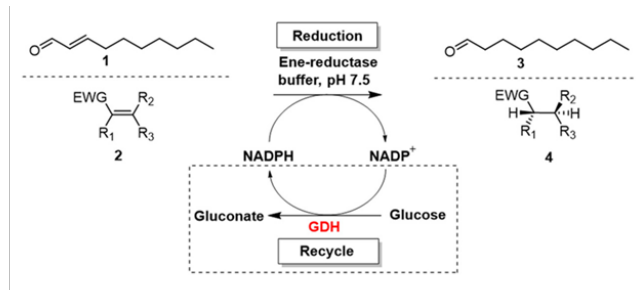
A. Papadopoulou, C. Peters, S. Borchert, K. Steiner,
R. Buller.

Co-funding: Innosuisse

2022 Publication

Development of an Ene Reductase-Based Biocatalytic Process for the Production of Flavor Compounds

Org. Process Res. Dev. June 14, 2022



Pbr-ER

- WT-enzyme
- active pH 6.0-9.0
- processes up to 60g/L
- stable (-20°C, 14 months)

- **Challenge**

Find a biobased alternative to metal-or chemocatalyzed double bond reductions for the F&F industry

- **Method**

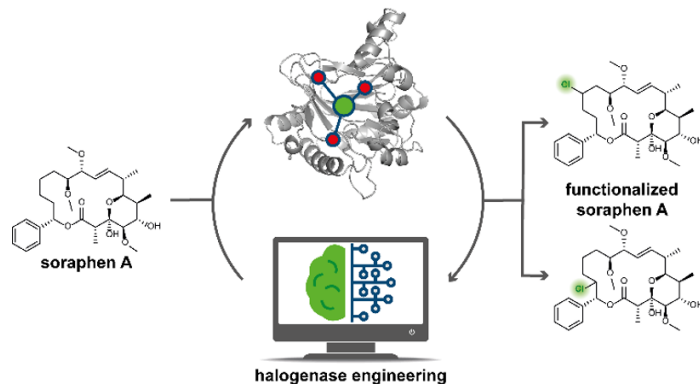
Ene reductases catalyze reduction of activated alkenes
→ Screen a wild-type ene reductase library (20 enzymes)

- **Results**

Pbr-ER (*Pseudomonas brassicacearum*): 2*E*-decenal reduction (40g/L, 100mL scale), conversion >93% / 24h
Active as well on undisclosed compound **2**

2022 Publication

with **Uwe Bornscheuer** (University of Greifswald)
und industrial partner **Syngenta Crop Protection
AG**



**Algorithm-aided engineering of aliphatic
halogenase WelO5* for the asymmetric late-stage
functionalization of soraphens**

Nat. Commun. 2022.

J. Büchler, S. Honda Malca, D. Patsch, M. Voss, N. J. Turner,
U. T. Bornscheuer, O. Allemann, C. Le Chapelain, A. Lumbroso,
O. Loiseleur and R. Buller

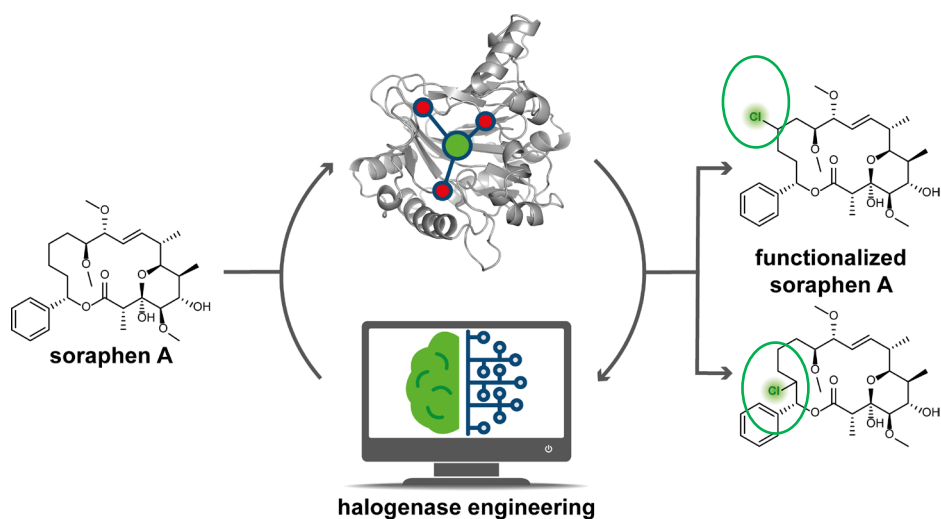
Co-funding SBFI-P-14 Innovation in Biocatalysis/ NCCR Catalysis

Plattform Biocatalysis and Biosynthesis

2022 Publication

Algorithm-aided engineering of aliphatic halogenase WelO5* for the asymmetric late-stage functionalization of soraphens

Nature Communications. January 18, 2022



- **Challenge**

Soraphen A is a potent natural antifungal - diversification
Find enzymes for controlled halogenation of sp^3 carbon

- **Method**

Build Soraphen A/ WelO5* model → use smart library design and machine learning → variants of halogenase WelO5* → chlorination activity

- **Results**

Smart library → enzymes accepting **polyketide** substrates

Machine learning → switch **regioselectivity**

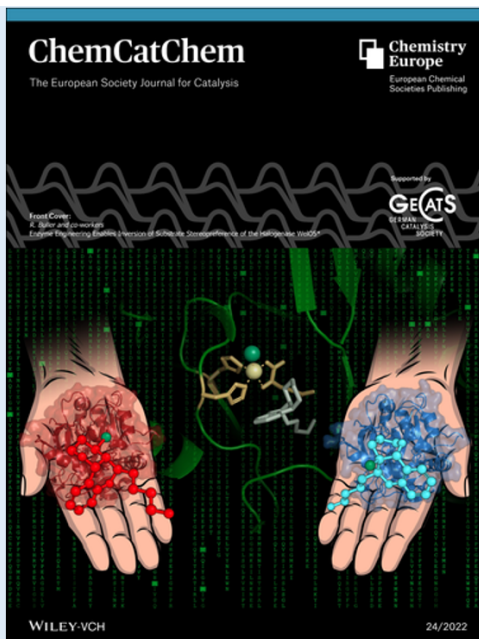
Test on pathogen fungi → chlorinated compounds are active
→ starting point for further structure-function studies

Biochemical characterization of selected WelO5* variants

| Identification | WelO5* variant | app. k_{cat} [min^{-1}] | TTN |
|------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| initial library | V81G_I161P | 0.026 ± 0.007 | 0.30 ± 0.2 |
| 3-site combinatorial library | V81S_A88L_I161P | 2.413 ± 0.349 | 30.0 ± 8.3 |
| ML predicted | V81V_A88L_I161 A | 1.959 ± 0.509 | 91.8 ± 22.0 |

2022 Publication

with industrial partner **Novartis** Institutes for
BioMedical Research



**Enzyme engineering enables inversion of substrate
stereopreference of the halogenase WelO5***
ChemCatChem, 2022.

M. Voss, S. Hüppi, D. Schaub, T. Hayashi, M. Ligibel,
E. Sager, K. Schroer, R. Snajdrova & R. M. U. Buller

Co-funding SNF: NCCR Catalysis
Plattform Biocatalysis and Biosynthesis

2022 Publication

*Enzyme Engineering Enables Inversion of Substrate Stereopreference of the Halogenase WelO5**

ChemCatChem October 24, 2022

- **Challenge**

Regio- and stereoselective halogenation of sp^3 carbon

Racemic resolution of a mixture of stereoisomers generated during synthesis of a **martinelline-derived fragment**

- **Method**

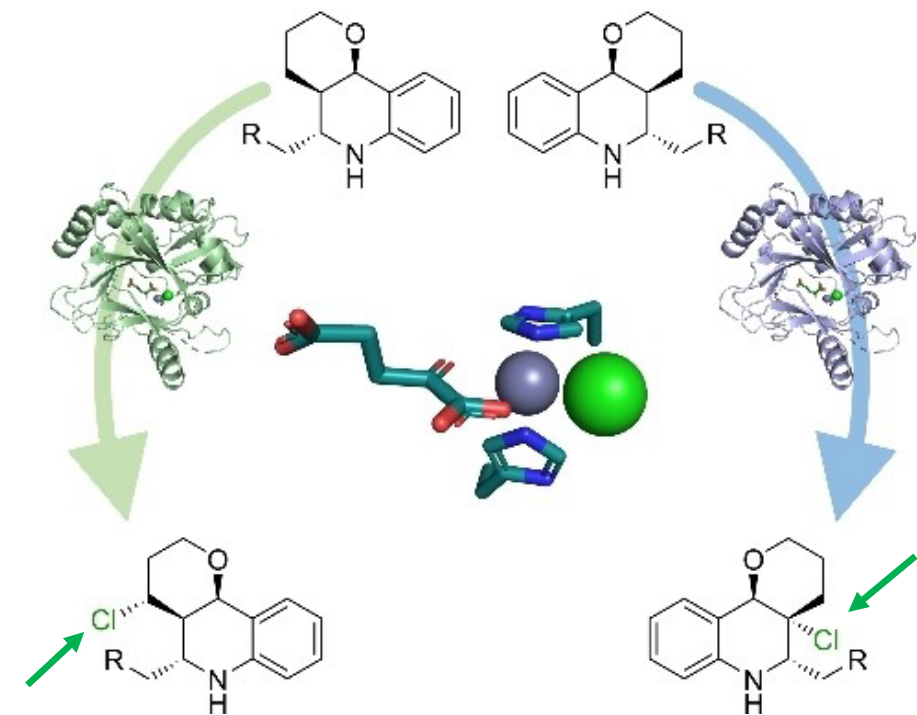
3-site combinatorial library → test on a martinelline-derived fragment isomers

- **Results**

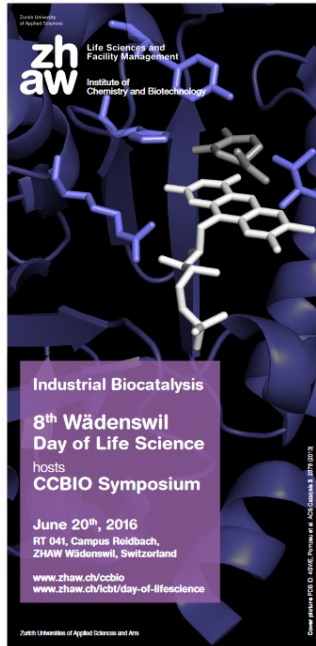
Two enzyme variants identified → **inverse stereopreference**

Difference: three aa residues in active site

Selective halogenation of one isomer in a mixture



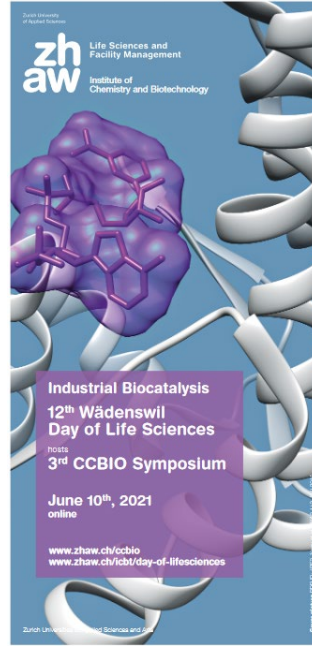
Conferences



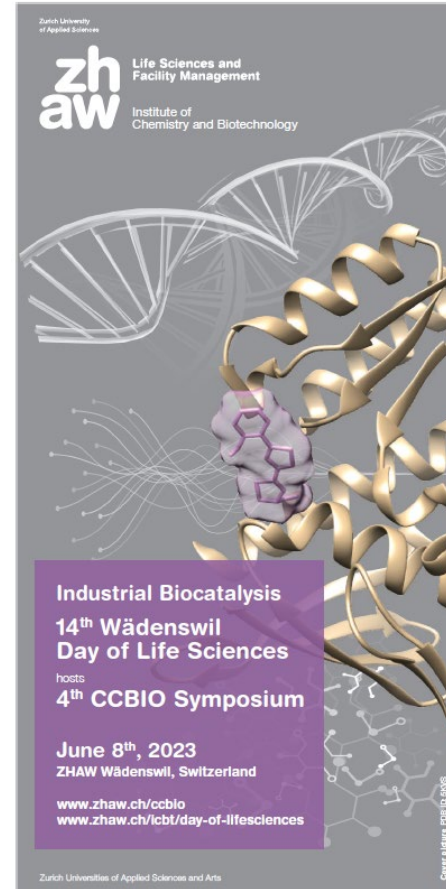
2016



2018



2021



June 8th, 2023

zhaw Life Sciences and Facility Management
Institute of Chemistry and Biotechnology

Industrial Biocatalysis
14th Wädenswil Day of Life Sciences
hosts
4th CCBIO Symposium
GA 203, Campus Grüental, ZHAW Wädenswil, Switzerland

June 8th 2023
register now!

Confirmed speakers:

Sabine Flitsch, University of Manchester (UK)

Pablo Iván Nikel, Technical University of Denmark (DK)

Florian Rudroff, TU Wien (AT)

Mélanie Hall, University of Graz (AT)

Thierry Schlama, Novartis (CH)

Gerard Roelfes, University of Groningen (NL)

Jared Lewis, Indiana University Bloomington (US)

Xiongyi Huang, John Hopkins University Baltimore (US)

Jörg Pietruszka, Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf (DE)

Caroline Paul, TU Delft (NL)

Christian Willrodt, BASF SE, Ludwigshafen (DE)

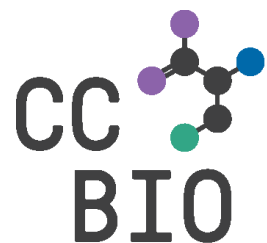


Join us:

Thursday June 8th, 2023

4th CC BIO Symposium "Industrial Biocatalysis"

www.zhaw.ch/ccbio



Competence Center
for **Biocatalysis**

Connect with us:

[rebecca.buller @zhaw.ch](mailto:rebecca.buller@zhaw.ch)

www.zhaw.ch/ccbio

Plattform Biocatalysis and Biosynthesis

